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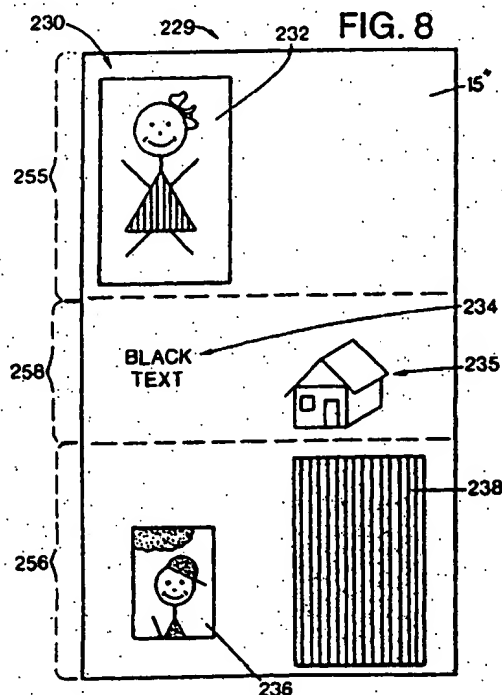
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(54) Automatic optimization of hardcopy output

(57) A method of automatically optimizing the controllable parameters related to producing printed material (40; 198; 229) on a hardcopy output device (10) is provided, along with a hardcopy output device (10) configured for implementing this method. Users require different types of printed objects to have different characteristics. Specifically, business graphics (45, 46; 204, 205; 238) need to be sharp and vivid, photographic images (48; 232, 236) should look realistic, and text (44, 44'; 44"; 208; 234) must be black, crisp and clear. By extracting, analyzing and conditioning data (52) generated during a printing stream, the various regions of text (44, 44', 44"; 208; 234), graphics (45, 46; 204, 205; 238) and photographic images (48; 232, 236) on a sheet (15; 15'; 15'') are distinguished, characterized, and printed. The resulting hardcopy output (40; 198; 229) has a custom balancing of color which is pleasing to the human eye for each type of image printed, and may also have print characteristics tailored for the specific elements on the page.



EP 0 674 289 A3

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	EP 0 349 234 A (FUJITSU LTD.; PFU LTD.) 3 January 1990	1-4, 8-11, 13-18	G06K15/02 G06K15/10
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X	EP 0 493 085 A (XEROX CORP) 1 July 1992	1-6, 8, 9, 13-18	
Y	* page 2, line 48 - page 7, line 1 *	7	
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 009, no. 015 (E-291), 22 January 1985 & JP 59 163945 A (CANON KK), 17 September 1984, * abstract *	1, 2, 8, 9, 13-18	
X	EP 0 488 534 A (CANON KK) 3 June 1992	1, 2, 8, 9, 13-18	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 10 June 1997	Examiner Gélébart, Y
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document		T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons &: member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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